

Sunday School 4 th Graders vision on the funeral of our Thirumeni'

Elizabeth Varghese

COMPARING & CONTRASTING

The Different and Alike Ways of a Regular Funeral and a Thirumeni's Funeral



The Difference: Unlike ordinary people, Thirumeni was buried sitting upward, and he is buried inside the church.(Devalokam, Kottayam).The funeral service was conducted by our Catholica Bava who visited our church last year, He was buried with incense instead of mud compared to regular people. He was a very important Bishop of our church whose funeral prayers and procession were held in different parts of the world like London, his hometown, (Ayrroor, India) and Kottayam (India). His funeral was attended by a large number of Church dignitaries and politicians.

Alike: Like a regular funeral they sing songs, make speeches and everybody is buried with their face covered

Taylor Oommen



Compare and contrast funeral services between us the people and the bishop.

*We are alike:

1. We sing half of the same songs from the church.
2. We have the censor.
3. People are sad.
4. At all funerals we have Achens and/or Thirumeni's.
5. We hold a cross in our hands.

*We are different:

1. Thirumeni's get placed sitting in a chair.
2. We get placed in a coffin.
3. Thirumani's don't get buried in the ground, they are placed in a sacred place, like a tomb.
4. We get buried in the ground outside



Gregory Jacob

Important facts about a burying a Thirumeni versus a regular person:

The entire prayers for a Thirumeni is very different from that of a regular person.

Thirumeni's have different prayers for their funeral service.

A regular person is buried lying down.

A regular person is buried in soil.

Thirumeni is buried sitting on a chair.

The Thirumeni is the image of Jesus Christ sitting at the right hand of God the Father.

The Thirumeni is also seen as the apostles who are to sit and rule the twelve tribes of Israel.

It also shows that the authority of priesthood is eternal.

A bishop is buried entirely in incense (and a little sand).

This is to preserve the holy remains of the Thirumeni.

We pray that God will not let their bodies decay.

Finally, in the Thirumeni's funeral service, the Thirumeni is lifted up four times to the four directions or corners of the world saying farewell to all the priests, deacons, bishops, people, churches, and the world he loved and cared for.



Sarah Alexander

Sunday School Grade 4

Describe the difference between an ordinary person's funeral and Thirumeni's funeral?

There are many differences in the funeral of an ordinary person compared to our Thirumeny's funeral.

First, an ordinary person is buried in a regular wood coffin where the body is laid down wearing regular clothes. The person's loved ones hold a funeral service for them and an Achen conducts a special prayer service for them. There also lots of prayers sung and many sad relatives and friends attend that funeral service. An ordinary person doesn't have to be buried in a church, but in a cemetery instead.

Everything is different for our Thirumeny's funeral. For our Thirumeny's funeral, there are many Achens and also many more other Thirumenis who conduct the Holy Qurbana as part of the funeral prayers. Thirumeny's body is not laid in a coffin. Thirumeny's Holy vestments are worn on his body, Thirumeny is seated upright in a royal chair, holds a staff, and then the body in the chair is lowered into the ground for burial. Since Thirumeny is known and also loved by lots and lots of people, there a very crowd in the church and on the way to the funeral. In the Holy Quarbana, there are lots of prayers sung, and many people are sobbing. Finally when Thirumeny's body is lowered into the ground, it is buried in the altar area of the Deva Lokam church which is located in Kerala, India.

Joby Mathew

3/8/2008

Funeral Comparison

4^h grade Sunday school

The Differences of a Thirumeni's Funeral and a Regular Funeral

We are very sad that our Thirumeni, H.G Thomas Mar Makarios, has entered in to eternal rest. We are also sad when our cousins and relatives die.

There are ways their funerals are different. As we watch the video of Thirumeni's funeral, we can see it is different from other people.

The funerals are different, but also the same in many ways. One way they are different is how their coffins are facing. The Thirumeni's is sitting upwards, while the regular body is laying on the back. The Thirumeni's coffin is upwards because it is a tradition to our church.

The Thirumeni has the cross and staff in hand. If the person who died is a female and married, they have their minnu. The minnu is a necklace which is given to the bride at marriage.

Thirumeni's body is brought to the churches and places he visited. This is called "Nagari Kanical". Thirumeni's body is also brought to the four corners of the altar. This is Thirumeni bidding farewell.

Anyone is allowed to be in the person's death service. You do not have to be Indian Orthodox to be in the death service. It is the same for a Thirumeni. You must be respectful for the person who died.

On both deaths there is dhuba prathana. This is the prayer that we pray to the dead. Thirumeni's dhuba prathana is conducted in the altar. We must also be respectful while we recite this prayer.

Thirumeni is buried with incense. This is to keep his body pure for years. Thirumeni is sitting down when he gets buried for another reason. He is a representative of Jesus Christ. It says in the bible that Jesus Christ will go up into heaven and sit on the right hand of the father.

